

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

~~a display unit equipped with~~ a display;

~~a main unit equipped with~~ a keyboard having a plurality of operation keys; [[and]]

~~a support unit that supports the display unit on the main unit so that the display unit pivots on a hinge having a hinge pin to open and close the keyboard;~~

a pointing device configured to control a pointer appearing on the display, said pointing device is positioned between said display and said keyboard; and

~~wherein~~ a first function button and a second function button that control an object chosen by [[a]] said pointer appearing on the display, and a third function button that allows a screen displayed on the display to be scrolled are all positioned ~~provided near one end in the axial direction of the hinge pin~~ between [[the]] said display [[unit]] and [[the]] said keyboard;

wherein said pointing device is positioned on an opposite side of the apparatus to said first function button, said second function button and said third function button.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): [[An]] The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [[the]] said first function button and [[the]] said second function button are arranged around [[the]] a circumference of [[the]] said third function button.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a plurality of cursor keys for moving a cursor appearing on ~~[[the]]~~ said display in predetermined directions, ~~[[the]]~~ said cursor keys being ~~disposed at the other end of the hinge pin between the display unit and the keyboard~~ arranged around a circumference of said pointing device.

Claim 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (New): An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said screen is scrolled when said third function button is pressed and held, and force is then applied on said pointing device in a predetermined direction.

Claim 7 (New): A method for controlling an information processing apparatus comprising steps of:

Inputting data via a keyboard having a plurality of operation keys and displaying a representation of said data on a display;

controlling with a pointing device a pointer appearing on the display, said pointing device being positioned between said display and said keyboard;

controlling an object chosen by said pointer appearing on the display, by actuating a first function button and a second function button;

scrolling the representation of said data displayed on the display by actuation of a third function button positioned between said display and said keyboard,

wherein said pointing device is positioned on an opposite side of said information processing apparatus to said first function button, said second function button and said third function button.